



## Day-By-Day Itinerary: Portugal's River of Gold

### Day 1: Lisbon, Portugal

Welcome to Lisbon; Viking will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel in the heart of Lisbon. Relax this afternoon and evening or explore the city a bit on your own.

### Day 2: Lisbon, Portugal

Embark on a half-day tour of Lisbon. Tour Jerónimos Monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, along with the Tower of Belém. This afternoon you may join an optional tour to explore more of Lisbon or get a taste of its cuisine.

### Day 3: Porto, Portugal

Check out of your hotel and take a scenic ride to Porto. Stop for lunch in Coimbra, birthplace of six Portuguese kings and home to one of Europe's oldest universities. Board your ship at Vila Nova de Gaia. Then, after boarding, relax and get settled in your stateroom. Join an optional tour this evening to

experience culinary delights at Porto's famed Graham's 1890 Lodge and sample a selection of their award-winning ports.

#### **Day 4: Régua & Pinhão, Portugal**

This morning we sail along the Douro (River of Gold), arriving at Régua in early afternoon. Disembark for an excursion to Vila Real, site of the extraordinary Mateus Palace (the building depicted on the Mateus Rosé wine labels). Visit one of the area's iconic port winemaking institutions. See its vineyard and tour the facility to learn how these unique Portuguese products are crafted, then sample. Rejoin your ship in Pinhão for dinner.

#### **Day 5: Barca d'Alva, Portugal**

We sail east this morning, along the Douro. See dramatic, sheer rock formations, picturesque terraced vineyards and graceful bridges and trestles along the way. You also pass through two of the river's locks at the Valeira and Pocinho Dams. We arrive at Barca d'Alva, not far from the Spanish border, in mid-afternoon.

Enjoy a tour to Castelo Rodrigo this afternoon. Located approximately 2,200 feet above sea level and surrounded by almond trees, Castelo Rodrigo is one of Portugal's 12 historic parishes. Here you see Sinagoga Street, a remembrance of the Jewish community established by refugees from the Spanish Inquisition; you can visit the local church as well. We will stop along the way to admire panoramic views as we ride back to our ship.

#### **Day 6: Salamanca, Spain**

Today we have a full-day excursion to Salamanca, Spain. This ancient city, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a living museum that takes visitors back to the Middle Ages; yet it is also a cosmopolitan and multicultural city with a large population of international students. Take a ride through the Iberian countryside to Salamanca, then spend some time exploring the shops and cafés of the Plaza Mayor (Main Square) on your own. Sample regional cuisine at the local marketplace. Your guided city tour takes you to the Gothic House of Shells, 13th-century Salamanca University and the New Cathedral, built from 1513 through 1733. Rejoin your ship in Vega de Terrón.

#### **Day 7: Pinhão, Portugal**

We sail west this morning along the Douro, passing some of the area's quintas (vineyards). Disembark for a scenic drive up to the little village of Favaio, and make your way to one of the last traditional bakeries in the Douro River Valley. Discover how bread was made in the old days and how it tasted with a sample fresh from the oven. Explore a typical Portuguese village not yet discovered by the masses, then continue for lunch at Quinta da Avesada, a rustic centuries-old winery in the heart of the Douro Wine District (a UNESCO World Heritage Site). Sample local fortified wine such as muscatel. Rejoin your ship in Pinhão and set sail to Régua, where you dock overnight.

#### **Day 8: Régua, Portugal**

Disembark for a visit to Lamego, a small town known for its baroque Sanctuary of Our Lady of Remedies, dating back to the 14th century and still used by pilgrims today. Visit the shrine, decorated with exquisite tilework in the Moorish manner,

and descend the grand baroque staircase. You also see the town's Gothic cathedral and the ruins of 12th-century Lamego Castle, with its unusual vaulted cistern. Return to your ship for lunch and scenic afternoon sailing along the Douro as you head back toward Porto.

### **Day 9: Porto, Portugal**

Take a city tour of Porto this morning, a charming riverside community whose historic center is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Admire its graceful bridges, grand cathedral and romantic 16th- through 19th-century buildings nestled together on narrow cobblestone streets.

You have time to explore Porto on your own this afternoon, or take an optional excursion to Guimarães and its medieval quarter. Sample wines that have been in the making for generations at the historic Quinta da Aveleda estate, or soar over the historic "City of Bridges" on a thrilling helicopter sightseeing tour. Enjoy a farewell dinner this evening.

### **Day 10: Porto, Portugal**

Disembark this morning and proceed to the airport for your return flight. Or, extend your time in the region with a 2-night extension to Braga, Portugal and Santiago de Compostela, Spain.



## **Details**

### **Our Longship: Viking Ostrid**

Viking boasts the most extensive fleet of river cruises vessels, and is proud to offer you the best ships in each region. Viking ships are specially designed to navigate the world's great rivers and provide convenient daily access to a plethora of destinations and experiences. Enjoy all the comfort and elegance of river cruising: attentive and professional staff, delicious onboard meals and spectacular scenery from every stateroom and public area.

These award-winning Viking Longships showcase innovative engineering, streamlined Scandinavian design and understated elegance. Thoughtfully engineered to get you closer to your destination, they provide unprecedented

levels of comfort, including spacious staterooms with full-size verandas, the largest suites on Europe's rivers.

Shipboard experiences include guest lectures and port talks; performances; craft and cooking sessions; classical and regional musicians and a curated library.

Dining onboard includes The Restaurant, offering gracious service, included wine and beer, and streamlined Scandinavian design. The menu includes regional cuisine and always available classics enhanced with locally sourced ingredients, so you can explore new cultures through food. The Aquavit Terrace offers the most al fresco dining on Europe's rivers.

## **What will it cost?**

Your per person costs will depend on your choice of staterooms, starting from \$4,399 for a standard cabin moving up to rooms with French doors, verandas and suites. One excursion in every port is included, and there are more options for a fee. Viking cruises are renowned for being inclusive and "nickel-diming" isn't Viking's style. All your shipboard meals and activities are included.